

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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The Secret of the Trolls...
Inside on page 2.



The SECRET of the TROLLS



1. Mark, the brave young servant of Lady Ulfstan did not stop the headlong gallop of his horse until he was safe on the other side of the castle moat and the drawbridge had been pulled up, keeping out the Trolls. He felt he had had a narrow escape from the underground world of the Trolls below the Magic Stone.

2. When Lady Ulfstan heard the thunder of a galloping horse approaching she rose from her bed, flung on a gown and went to meet Mark, eager to hear what had happened on his visit to the Trolls. She saw the angry little men on the other side of the drawbridge, shaking their fists in great annoyance.



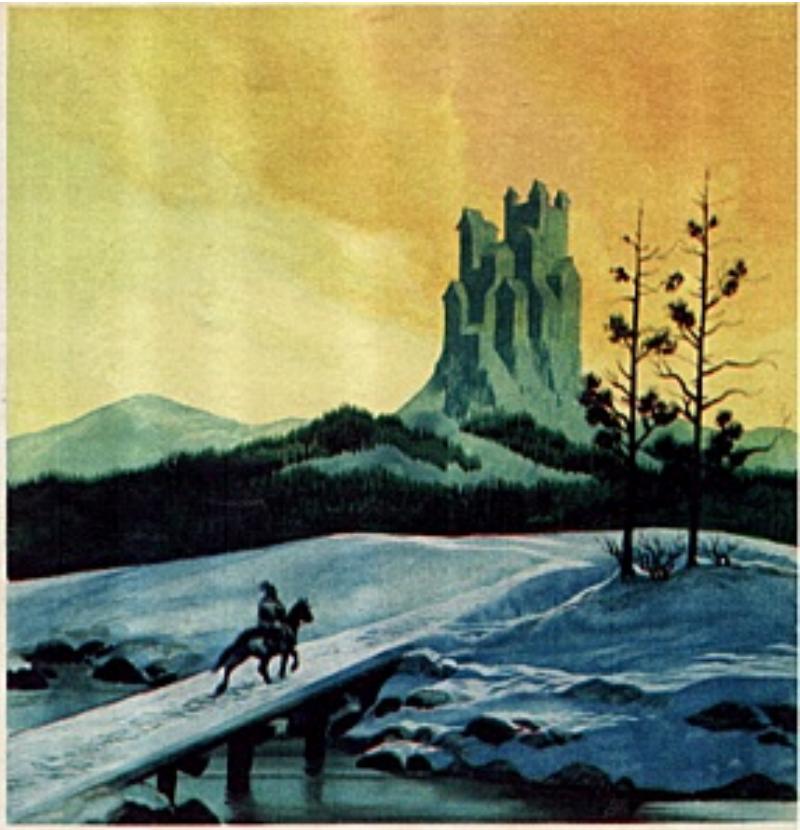
3. Breathless, Mark told her ladyship about the meeting of the Trolls. "The King Troll handed me a horn of wine and a music pipe," he said. "He ordered me to drink the health of the Trolls and then blow three times upon the pipe, but a fair maiden secretly warned me not to, and I had to make an escape."



4. Time passed by and Lady Ulfstan did not ask Mark to make a second dangerous trip to the land of the Trolls. Meanwhile, her ill-tempered daughter continued to scream and shout and stamp her feet in fits of fury. Trembling servants hid behind corners when they saw her approach, keeping out of her way.



5. Lady Ulfstan did not know what to do. She believed that this was not really her own daughter and that the secret of her real daughter was known only to the Trolls. But for the moment she busied herself with writing letters, inviting all the noble knights to visit the castle, hoping that one would marry the girl.

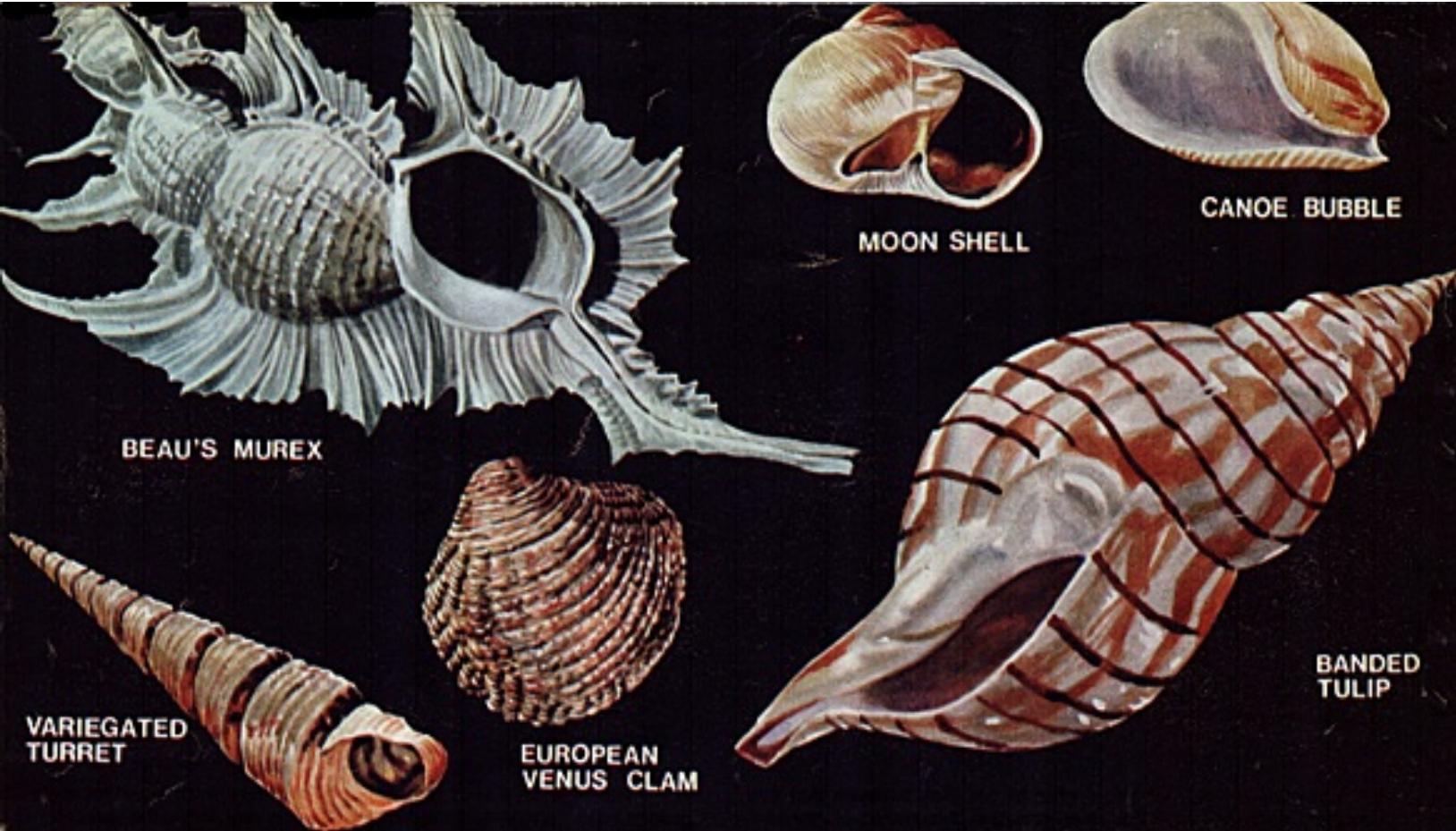


6. "Marriage to a kind and noble knight may work wonders for a young girl," she thought to herself. So she sent Mark, the servant to visit all the castles in the surrounding countryside with an invitation to the young knights and nobles to spend a week or two at the castle to enjoy some Winter sports and games.



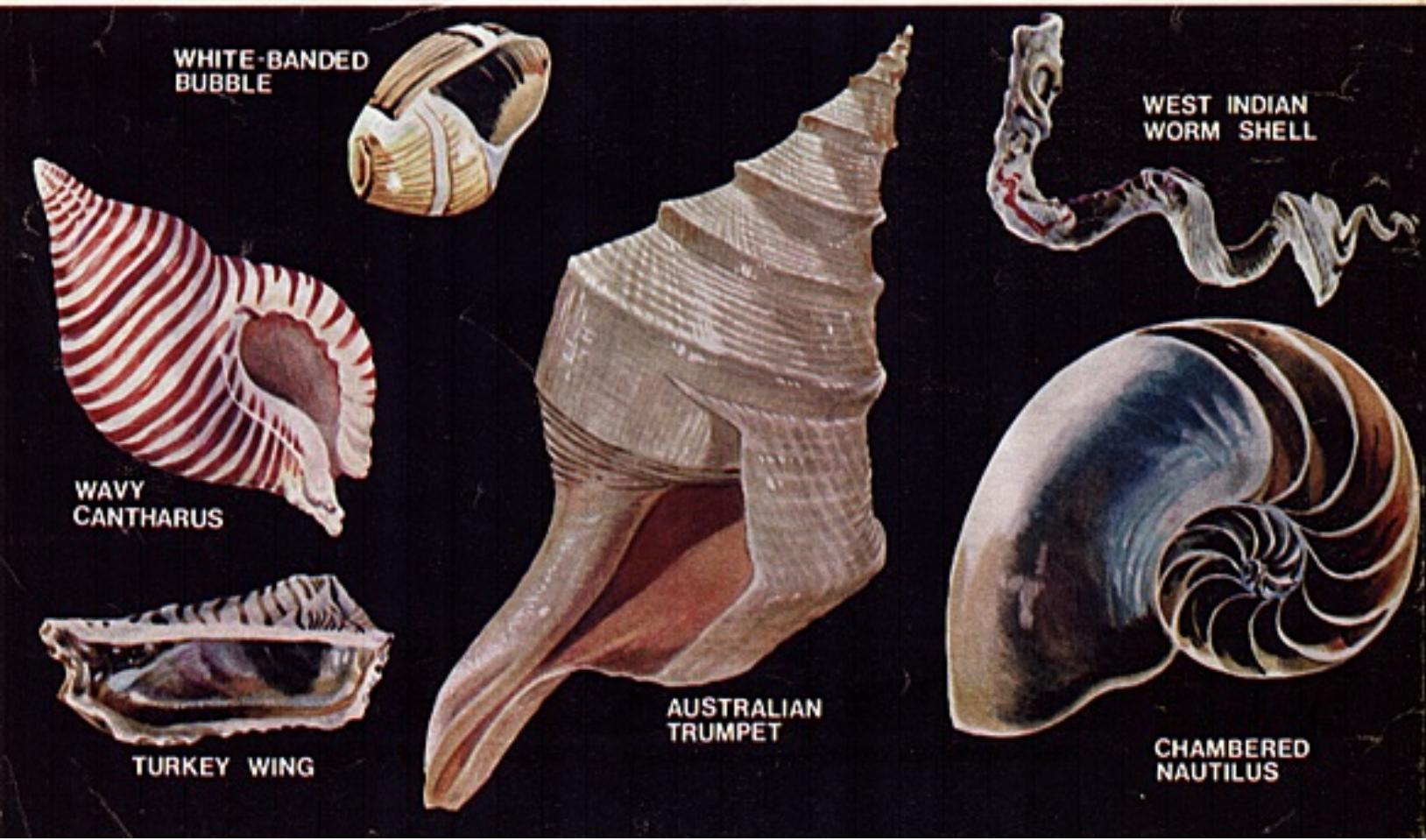
7. The invitations were well received by the young knights and nobles. They knew that Lady Ulfstan was a splendid hostess and would provide them with good food and good times at the castle. They had also heard that Lady Ulfstan had a daughter, and a very pretty one—but they did not know the ill-temper of the girl.

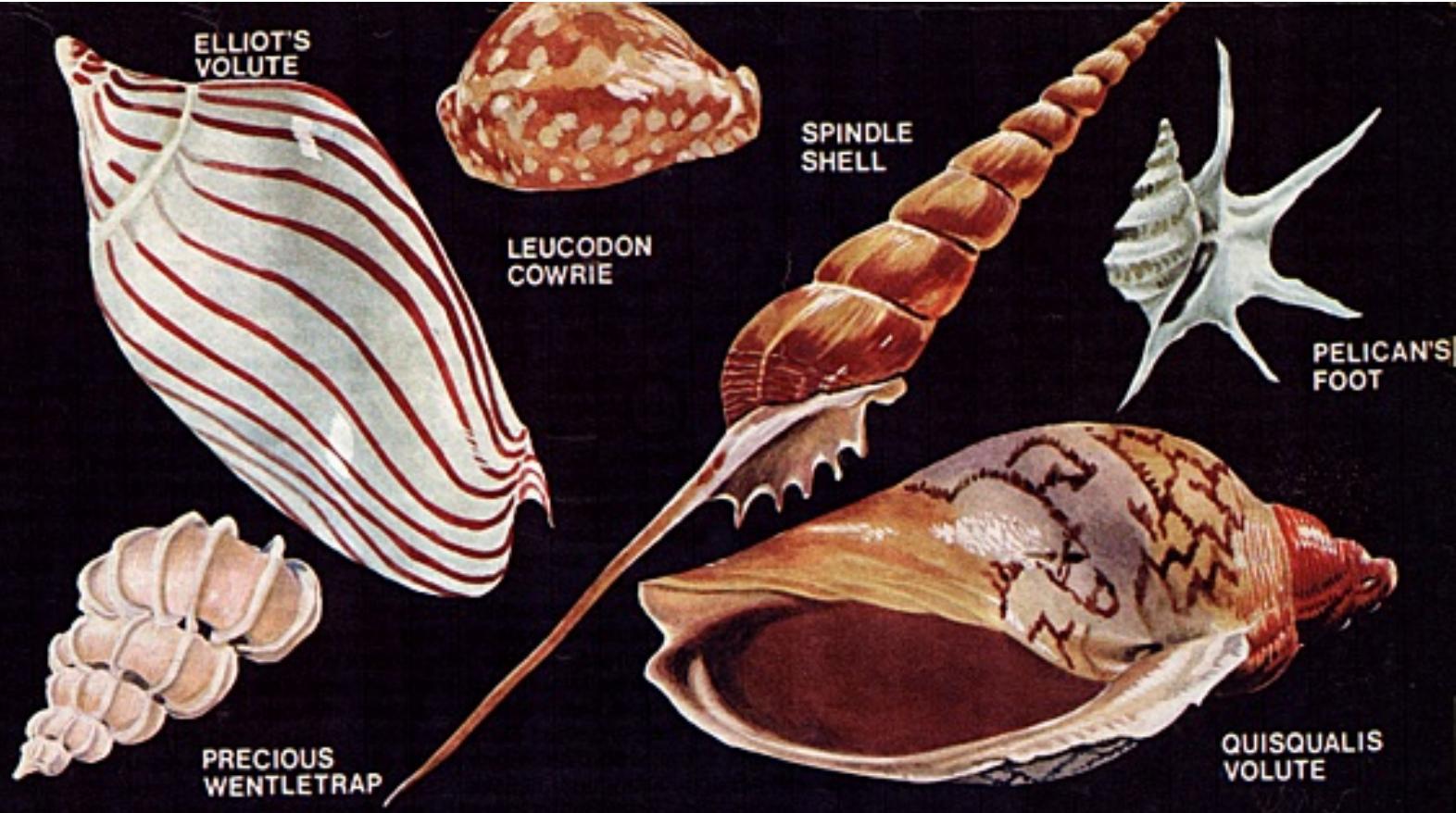
8. There was deep snow on the ground when they began to come to the castle from several different ways. They had dressed themselves in their finest riding clothes and came mounted on their best horses. The castle looked splendid and inviting and none of them guessed the sadness and trouble that lay within its walls.



Here are our "Allsorts" pages,
in which we show you all sorts
of different things. This week
we show you:

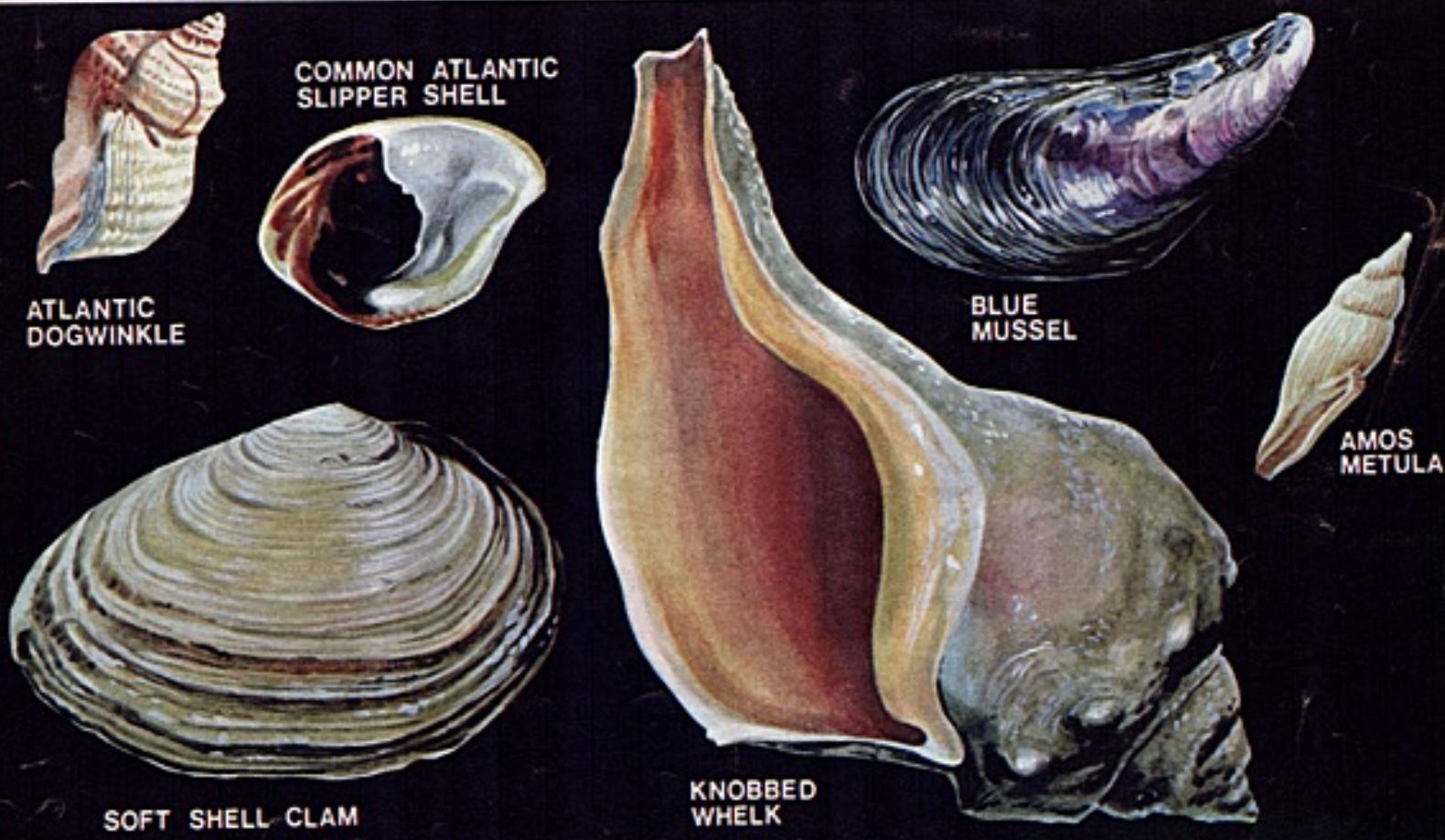
All Sorts of Sea Shells





Shells are really little houses that sea creatures have made. These creatures are called shell-fish which is a bad name for them because they are a much lower form of life than fish. They have no bones in their bodies, so the creature needs a shell to protect itself from the larger creatures that hunt it and also from the force of the ocean which could

toss it on to the rocks. When the creature dies, the body, over a period of time, disappears, and the shell becomes much lighter than it was when the shell-fish was living inside. The empty shell can now float to the surface and many are washed up on to our shores. The shells found on our beaches are very pretty, and you can collect them.





BRER RABBIT

This week Brer Fox goes fishing

ONE day, Brer Rabbit was going lickety-clippety along the road, when who should he come across but Brer Terrapin. Now Brer Rabbit and Brer Terrapin were really quite good friends, for Brer Terrapin, he was smaller than most of the other animals, just like Brer Rabbit, but he was cunning, although he didn't play as many tricks on the other animals as Brer Rabbit did.

"How are you, this fine day, Brer Terrapin?" Brer Rabbit enquired.

"Oh, quite well, quite well, thank you Brer Rabbit," Brer Terrapin answered. "And how are you Brer Rabbit, and Mrs. Rabbit and all the little ones?"

"Why, Mrs. Rabbit, she's just fine, and the children, well they're all just fine," said Brer Rabbit. "Bubbling over with high spirits they are, Brer Terrapin, for Brer Fox hasn't been near for days now, so they're not afraid of being caught and popped into his cooking pot."

Brer Rabbit paused and thought for a minute. "Talking of cooking pots has just reminded me, Brer Terrapin," he added. "Food's getting low, and as for me, well I'm beginning to feel



mighty hungry. Do you know where there's any fine food to be found, Brer Terrapin?"

Brer Terrapin scratched his head thoughtfully. "I don't know that I do, Brer Rabbit," he said. "Haven't you got any carrots in your garden, now?"

"Nearly all gone, Brer Terrapin," Brer Rabbit said sorrowfully. "With so many children to feed they don't seem to last any time at all. You know how it is."

Brer Terrapin scratched his head again and nodded. "Well, how about the river, Brer Rabbit?" he said. "Surely there's some fine fish in the river. I'm going in that direction myself. Why not come with me and have a look?"

Brer Rabbit thought this was a good idea, so the two animals went off together in the direction of the river.

Soon they reached a bank, where the ground sloped steeply down to the river. They peered over the edge, and who should the two animals see below, but Brer Fox. Now Brer Fox had his fishing rod with him and he was sitting beside the river fishing. Beside him Brer Rabbit saw a sight that made his mouth water—a pile of fine, fat fish.

"Brer Terrapin," said Brer Rabbit, "just look at that. It's not right that one animal should have such a lot of fish just for himself. Why the sight of all that fish fairly makes my mouth water, it does, Brer Terrapin, I declare."

Now Brer Terrapin had no love for Brer Fox, either, so he was inclined to agree with Brer Rabbit.

"I have a plan, Brer Terrapin," said

the cunning rabbit. "Just you wait here for a moment." Off went the rabbit to return a few minutes later carrying an old bucket he had found. He had taken it down to the river and filled it with water.

"The fishing's mighty good down there, Brer Terrapin," said Brer Rabbit. "I'm going down there to ask Brer Fox if I can share it with him. If he turns unfriendly and tries to catch me, why I'd like you to tip this water all over him, Brer Terrapin, so that I can get away."

Brer Terrapin agreed. He perched himself on the edge of the steep bank, just above Brer Fox, while Brer Rabbit went jauntily down the path.

"How d'you do, Brer Fox," said Brer Rabbit. "That's a fine bit of fishing you've been doing. I was thinking there's enough for two."

"Come right down and join me, Brer Rabbit," said Brer Fox. "Come right down and fish here beside me."

Brer Rabbit went on down and that was just what Brer Fox wanted, for he thought that once Brer Rabbit was down there beside him at the edge of the river, there was nowhere for him to run to, to escape, and then, thought Brer Fox, he could catch Brer Rabbit easily.

"Well now, Brer Fox," said Brer Rabbit when he got down there. "Where can I fish?"

"Right here, beside me, Brer Rabbit. I'll show you the best place," said Brer Fox, craftily, but of course, when Brer Rabbit got right up to him, the fox pounced and grabbed him. "Got you at

last, Brer Rabbit," he chuckled. "And don't think you'll get away with it this time. I intend to see you get what you deserve. Oh, yes, Brer Rabbit."

"Help," hollered Brer Rabbit. Brer Fox thought he heard a sound above him and just for a second he looked up, and as he did, a flood of water came down on top of him, followed by the bucket which landed neatly over his upturned head.

Brer Fox was well and truly caught. He let go his hold on Brer Rabbit and tried to yank the bucket off his head, but it was stuck tight and needed some tugging and shoving. Meanwhile, that crafty Brer Rabbit had picked up the big pile of fish and was hopping lickety-clip up the path again to Brer Terrapin.

"Thank you, Brer Terrapin," he called. "Thank you, for your help." And off he went, chuckling to himself, to take the fish to Mrs. Rabbit for their supper.

Next week there will be more fun with artful Brer Rabbit.



Pottery is made from the clay taken from pits of china clay (or Kaolin). The clay is washed out by means of strong jets of water from hoses. The mixture of clay and water runs to the pit bottom, where it is pumped to the works and separated. The clay itself then goes to the pottery firms.

POTTERY



Here is a potter, using a spinning wheel to shape a vase with his hands. Most "everyday" pottery, such as cups and saucers and plates, is shaped by special machines, not by hand.

An artist paints on a design, then the article is dipped in a glazing liquid and baked in a kiln.

Fun With Numbers

As you look at the pictures, you can learn about garden birds and have fun with a counting game.



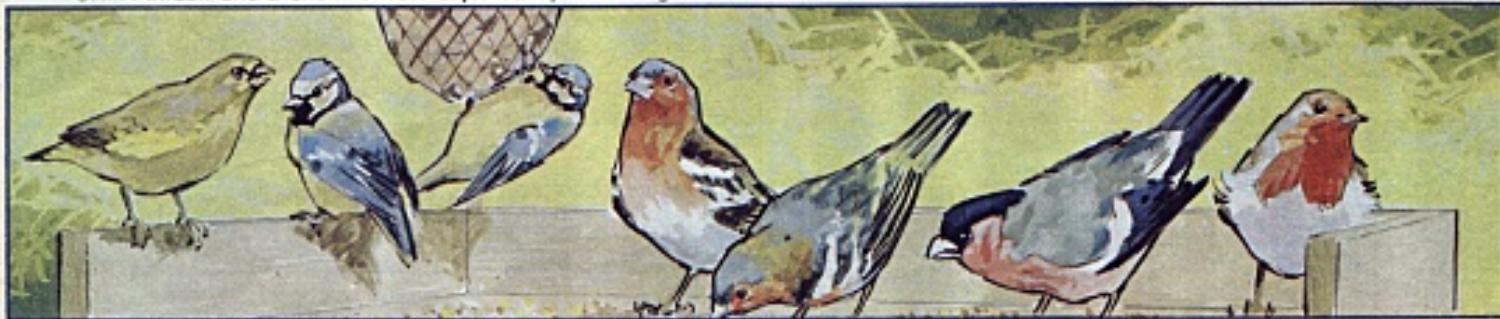
A. Simon and Sarah are watching the birds around the garden food-table. How many birds can you count?



B. On the table are 3 sparrows and 2 robins. 2 sparrows fly off. How many birds are left?



C. A thrush and 2 chaffinches are joined by a starling and another thrush. How many birds altogether?



D. On the table now are a greenfinch, 2 blue tits, 2 chaffinches, a bullfinch and a robin. How many altogether?



E. As Simon and Sarah move closer, some birds fly away. How many are left on the bird-table now?

ANSWERS: A. 8. B. 5-2=3. C. 5. D. 7. E. 3.

This is a Memory Test. When you have read the story, turn to page 16 and try to answer the questions, to see how good your memory is.

Signs of the Zodiac

LEO

(July 21st - August 21st)

LEO, the fierce Lion of Nemea, is the Zodiac sign for persons who have birthdays falling between July 21st and August 21st. This is the story of this famous lion:

As a punishment for the crimes he had committed during a spell of madness, Hercules was told by the advisers of Apollo that as a punishment, he would have to serve the King of Argolis, for twelve years. During these twelve years, he was to perform twelve tasks.

The first task was to kill the Lion of Nemea that had been frightening the people living in nearby villages. The beast had killed several villagers, and it was said that no sword or arrow could pierce its skin. But Hercules managed to force the creature on to its back and then using his strong arms, he strangled it.

After this brave act, Jupiter raised the Lion to the heavens and called the constellation Leo.

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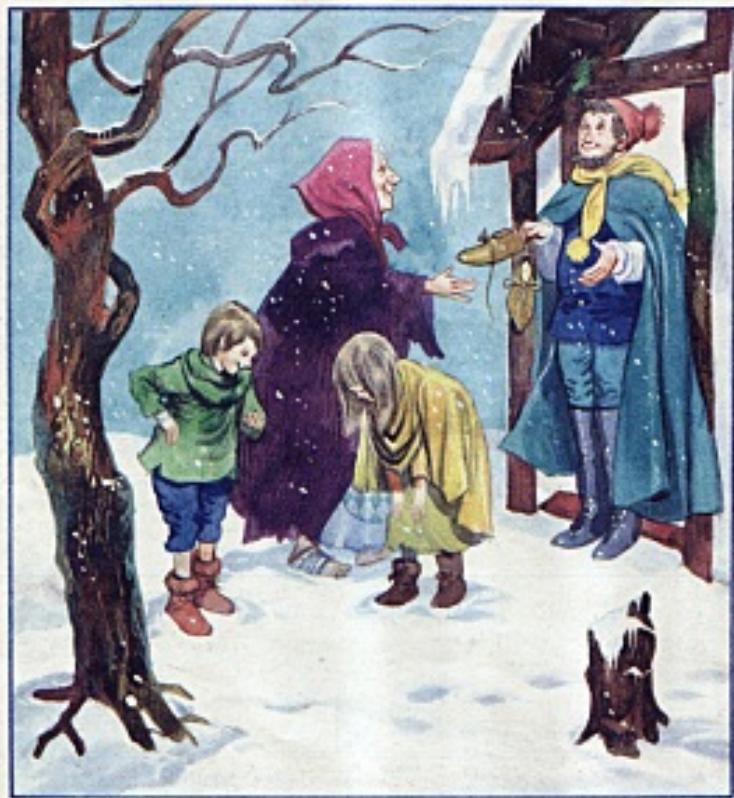
The Old Shoemaker



1. Once upon a time in a far away land there lived a kindly and hard-working old shoemaker named Albert. He liked to work outside his hut, banging away with his hammer and nails and the children of the countryside used to come and watch him.



2. Then one day in the Winter when the snow was thick upon the ground, a woman came trudging through the woods with her two children, gathering sticks for the fire. Albert saw at once that the children and their mother had no shoes and called to them.



3. "Bare feet are not much use in weather like this, my good lady," he said to the mother. "You must all try some of my shoes to keep out the cold." "I would do so gladly," replied the mother, "but, alas, I have no money to buy them." "Who was talking about buying?" said Albert. "They are a gift from me."



4. Albert was happy to give away his shoes and when word got round, other poor people came along hopefully. Again and again he gave away his shoes and enjoyed doing so, but in the end he found himself in great trouble. He had no more leather to make his shoes, nor a penny in the place to buy fresh supplies.



5. Now when Albert was sad, the little animals and birds of the forest were sad, too, for they were his friends. "We must do something about this," they said. So they went deep into an enchanted part of the forest and told the Fairy of the Grotto.



6. She also knew about the kindly old shoemaker and she called up the elves and fairies of the forest. "I have changed your duties for today," she told them. "Instead of going round to awaken the flowers, you are to set to and make pairs of shoes."



7. Next day, Albert was amazed to find a great pile of shoes and boots of all shapes and sizes outside his cottage. And as he gasped at the sight of them, the King and Queen rode by in their carriage. "Such shoes are fit for a Queen," said the King.



8. He stopped the carriage and got out. "You shall be the Royal Shoemaker," he told Albert. "In future you will have all your heart could desire." The little Friends of the Forest smiled as they watched and were glad that Albert had got his reward.

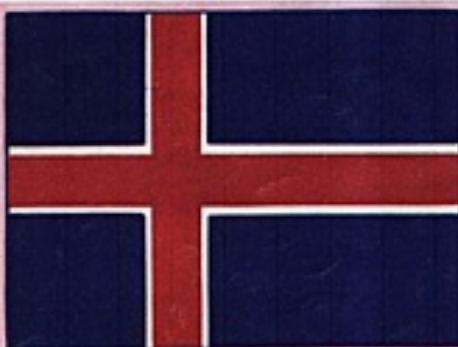
Beautiful Paintings



This beautiful painting by the famous Dutch artist, Hobbema, is called "The Avenue at Middelharnis," and he painted it in 1689. Hobbema loved the Dutch countryside and all of his paintings are of scenes such as the one we show you. In his pictures you will

see picturesque mills, old cottages, and still pools, into which bordering trees are mirrored. It is said that he did not like to paint human figures and that his artist-friends used to paint them into his pictures for him.

Learn about Iceland

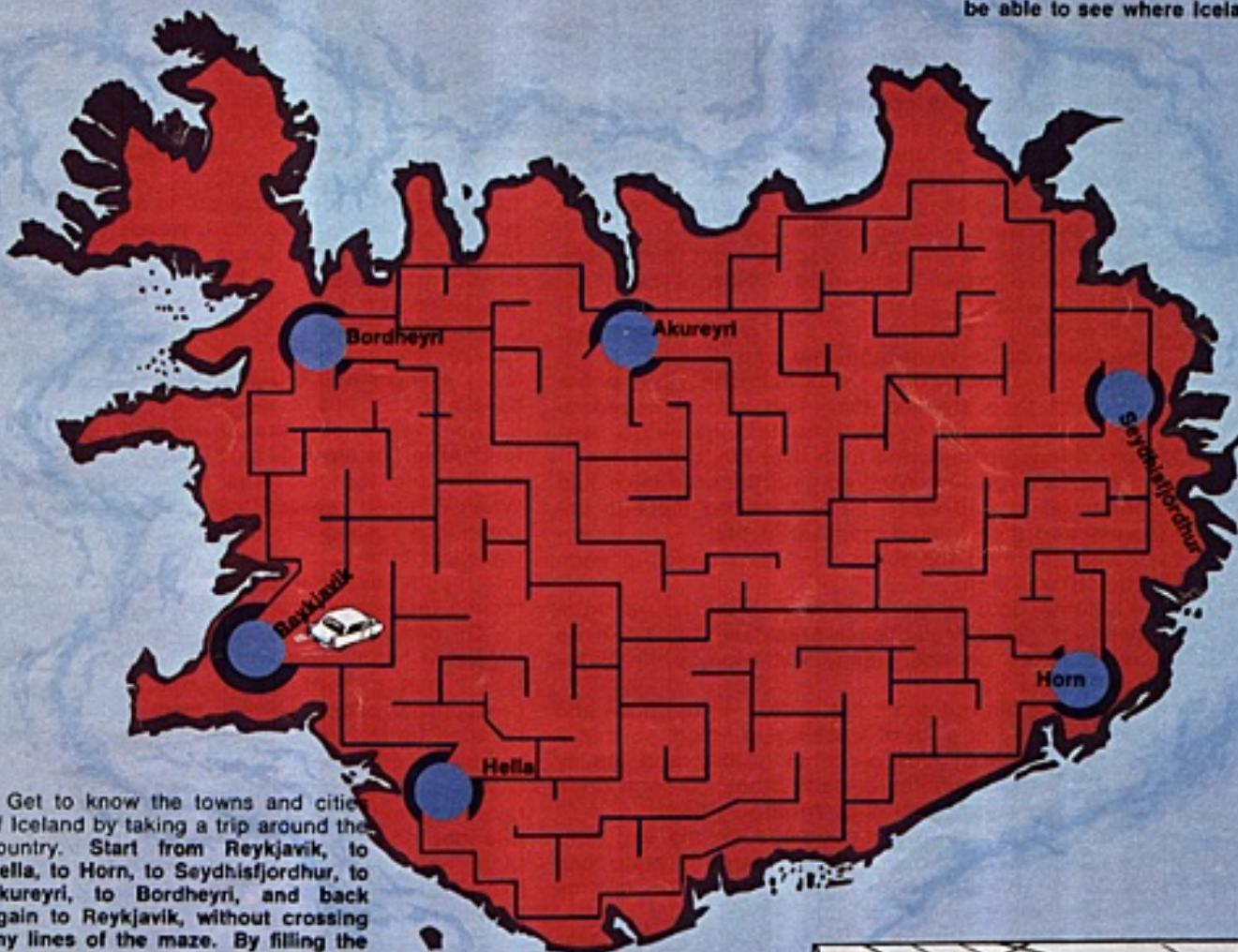


This is the flag of Iceland.

Iceland is often called "the land of ice and fire". This is because of its wild scenery which is for the most part of the year, covered in snow and ice. Some of the most beautiful waterfalls in the world are to be found in Iceland, and as they fall into rushing rivers, the sun shines through the spray to make rainbows. In bright dancing colours which look like leaping flames.

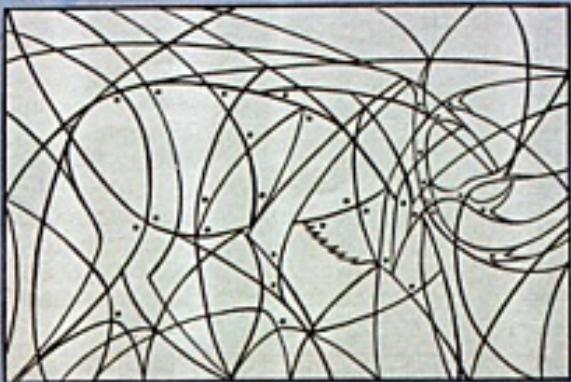


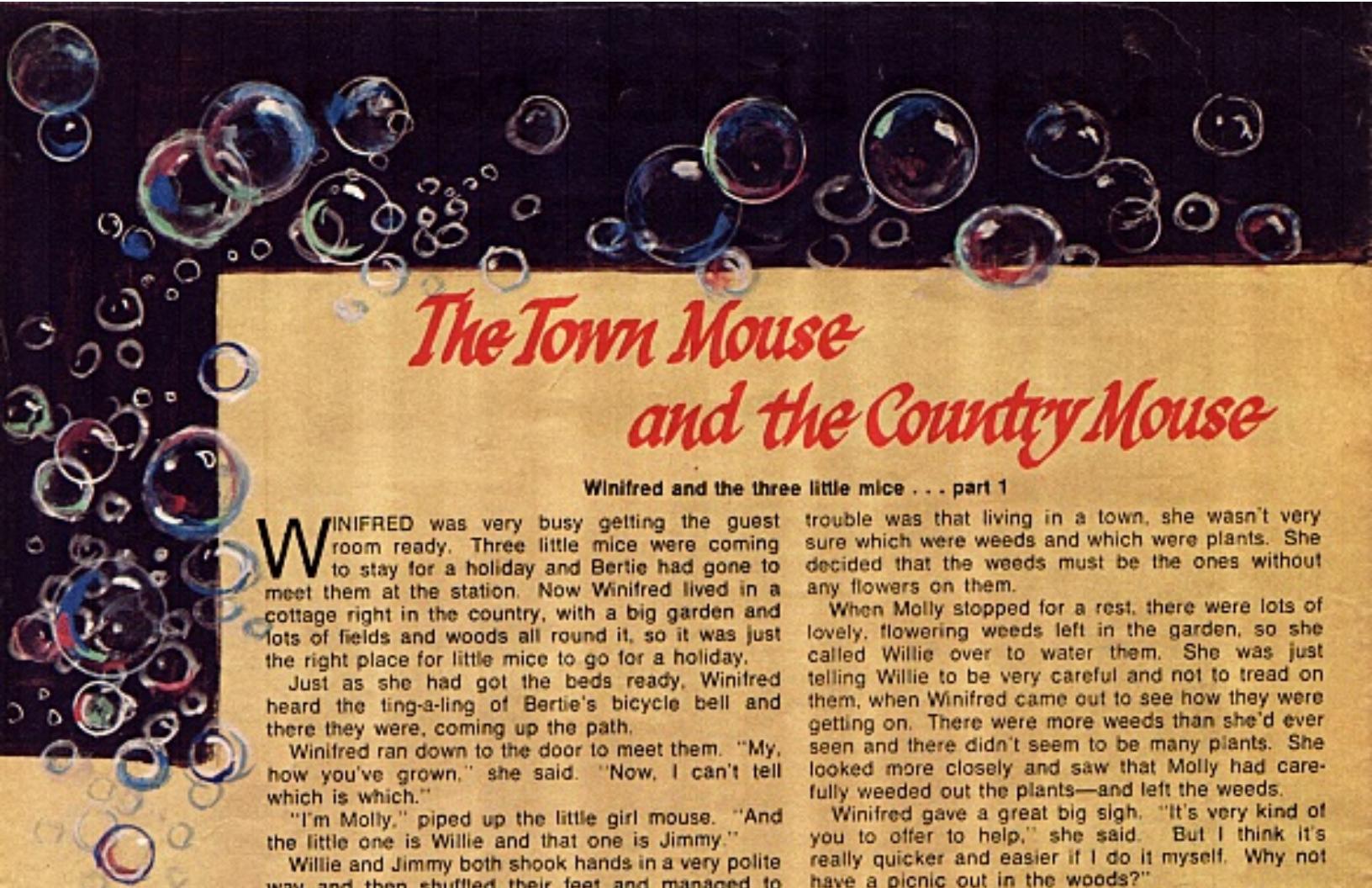
By looking at this map, you will be able to see where Iceland is.



Get to know the towns and cities of Iceland by taking a trip around the country. Start from Reykjavik, to Hella, to Horn, to Seyðisfjordur, to Akureyri, to Bordheyri, and back again to Reykjavik, without crossing any lines of the maze. By filling the spaces marked with a dot, you will draw a reindeer.

As a domestic animal, the reindeer is of great use to the Icelanders. Reindeers can pull sleighs across ice and snow without faltering, and this is due to their unusual feet. Each foot has two pairs of hoofs, and in between these is a patch of coarse hair. The foot spreads out in the snow and ice and so prevents the reindeer from slipping.





The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

Winifred and the three little mice . . . part 1

WINIFRED was very busy getting the guest room ready. Three little mice were coming to stay for a holiday and Bertie had gone to meet them at the station. Now Winifred lived in a cottage right in the country, with a big garden and lots of fields and woods all round it, so it was just the right place for little mice to go for a holiday.

Just as she had got the beds ready, Winifred heard the ting-a-ling of Bertie's bicycle bell and there they were, coming up the path.

Winifred ran down to the door to meet them. "My, how you've grown," she said. "Now, I can't tell which is which."

"I'm Molly," piped up the little girl mouse. "And the little one is Willie and that one is Jimmy."

Willie and Jimmy both shook hands in a very polite way and then shuffled their feet and managed to look very hungry, so Winifred told Bertie to take their things upstairs and then they could have tea.

After a good tea, Winifred said the little mice had better go to bed early, so she helped them to undress and then tucked them up in bed.

Next morning the three little mice were up soon after it was light.

"Mother told us we must help in the house, Aunt Winifred," said Molly, after breakfast, "so I will do the washing up and Jimmy will wipe, while Willie sweeps the floor."

Winifred poured some hot water into the bowl and Molly poured in a lot of washing-up liquid, so that it made piles and piles of lather. Molly and Jimmy blew the soap bubbles at each other, so soon there were soap bubbles all over Winifred's floor.

Then, of course, Jimmy slipped on the wet floor and fell. Clatter, bang, thump went a plate and Winifred's big tin tea-pot. The plate broke, but the tea-pot, being tin, only chipped a bit.

When she heard the bang, Winifred, who was pegging out some washing, came running back in to see what was the matter.

"Oh," said Winifred, when she saw all the soapy mess. But she knew that they had been trying very hard to help, so she said, "Thank you very much for helping. Now you can help me in the garden."

Winifred told the little mice to water the plants and pull out the weeds and the three youngsters worked very hard. But Willie just couldn't resist watering Jimmy. "It's all right, Jimmy," he said. "It's rain-water, out of the water-butty by the door, so it's just the same as being rained on."

Molly was very busy pulling up weeds, but the

trouble was that living in a town, she wasn't very sure which were weeds and which were plants. She decided that the weeds must be the ones without any flowers on them.

When Molly stopped for a rest, there were lots of lovely, flowering weeds left in the garden, so she called Willie over to water them. She was just telling Willie to be very careful and not to tread on them, when Winifred came out to see how they were getting on. There were more weeds than she'd ever seen and there didn't seem to be many plants. She looked more closely and saw that Molly had carefully weeded out the plants—and left the weeds.

Winifred gave a great big sigh. "It's very kind of you to offer to help," she said. "But I think it's really quicker and easier if I do it myself. Why not have a picnic out in the woods?"

The three mice gave squeaks of joy. "Oh what fun, Aunt Winifred," said Molly. They all three rushed into the house to pack the picnic basket. When Winifred realised that they were being helpful again, she rushed into the house after them, but she wasn't in time to prevent Willie putting the milk jug and sugar basin into the picnic basket—and of course they both upset all over everything.

"Oh dear, I've made such a mess," wailed Willie.

"Never mind," Winifred said quickly. "It was lucky that I had packed the sandwiches and cakes in greaseproof paper, so they have come to no harm. I'll wipe up the spilt milk and sugar and everything will be put right in a second."

When the picnic basket was packed the three mice went off down the lane and Winifred went out into the garden to put back all the plants which Molly had so carefully weeded out for her. "Never mind," said Winifred. "They did try so hard to be helpful that I can't be cross."

More of Winifred and the three little mice in next week's story.

Here are some questions from the story about the Zodiac sign of Leo on page 10. To test your memory, see how many questions you can answer before turning back to check them.

1. Which king was Hercules told to serve?
2. What did he have to do during his years of slavery?
3. How did Hercules manage to kill the lion?
4. Who raised the lion to the heavens?



Sinbad the Sailor



1. Tired of carrying the Old Man around on his shoulders for day after day, Sinbad had thought of a plan to get rid of him by making a bowl of strong wine from grapes. As he hoped, the Old Man was curious about the drink which seemed to make Sinbad so happy, so he snatched the bowl and greedily drank the lot.

2. Now this wine, which had been at the bottom of the bowl, was the strongest part, and soon the Old Man began to close his eyes. His legs became slack and loosened their hold. Now was Sinbad's chance. Jumping up quickly, at the same time giving a violent jerk with his shoulders, he toppled him off.



3. "At last I am free of the horrible old creature," laughed Sinbad in great relief, as he ran away leaving the Old Man sound asleep and snoring from the effects of the strong wine. "Now I can roam around the island as I like and sleep when I like—and I shall make sure to keep well away from him."

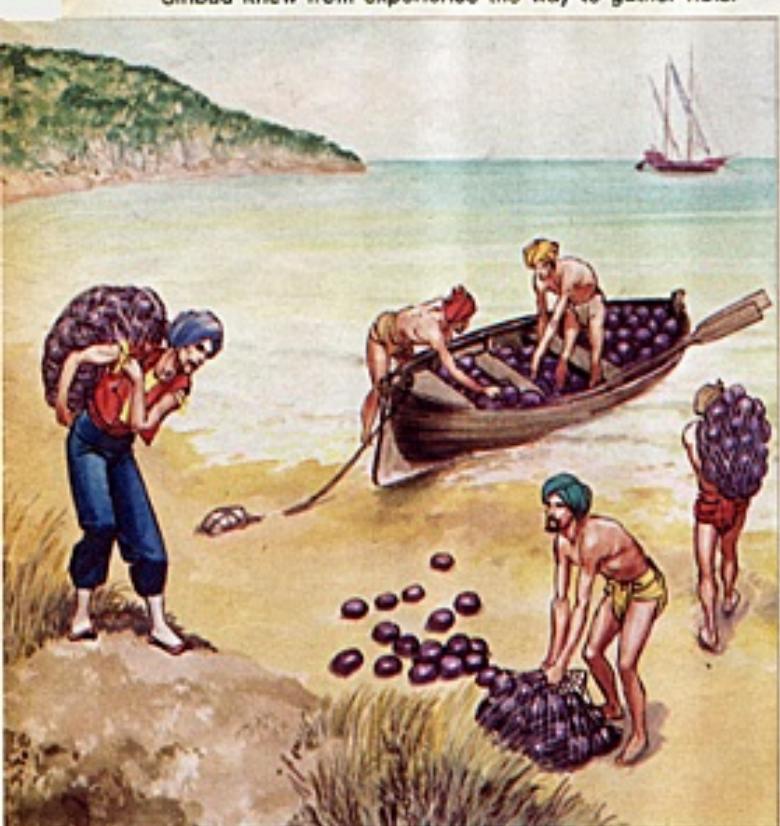
4. For some days Sinbad was happy in his new-found freedom, and then one day he stood on the cliff-top and saw a ship's boat coming ashore. When he ran down to meet the sailors and told them the tale of the Old Man they were amazed. "You are the first that ever escaped from the monster," they gasped.



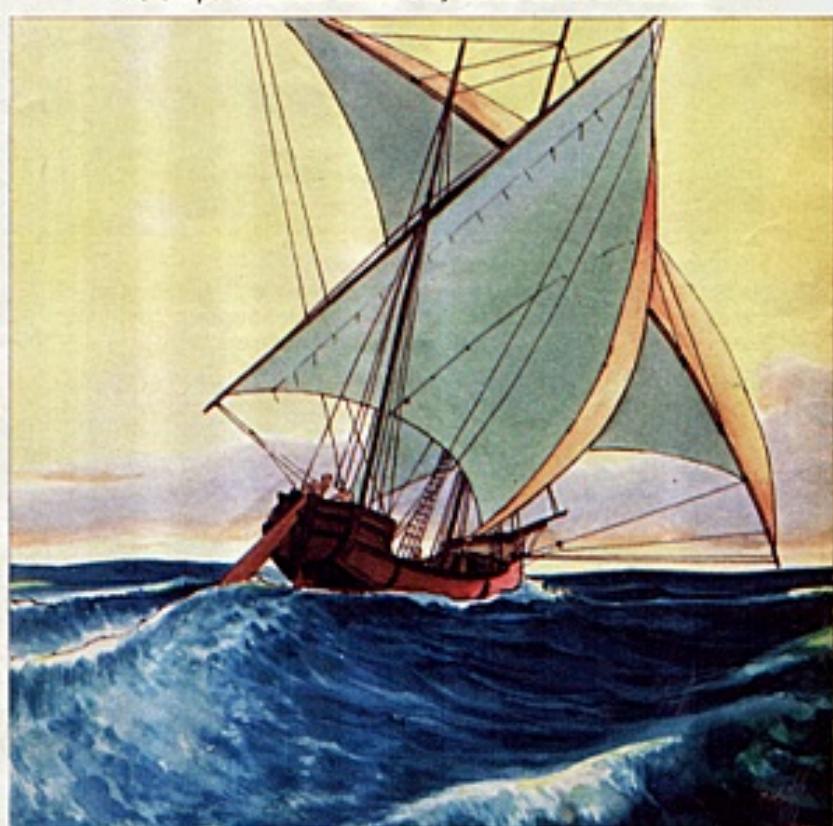
5. The boat had come ashore to collect coconuts from the many palm trees on the island. Sinbad was eager to help and at his suggestion they began to throw pebbles and small rocks into the tops of the palm trees. At first they were puzzled about this, but Sinbad knew from experience the way to gather nuts.



6. As the stones and pebbles flew into the top branches there was such a chattering and screaming from the monkeys. Being animals with a natural desire to imitate they looked round for things to throw back at the men below—and the nearest things to hand were ripe coconuts which they threw down in dozens.



7. It was easier to collect the coconuts from the ground than to climb the thin trunks of the palms and the men from the ship were delighted with Sinbad's clever idea. Gathering the nuts they put them in string bags and loaded the small boat, making several trips until they had a full cargo of coconuts.



8. "Now we are ready to sail, and on the way back to Persia we will trade the nuts for other goods," they said to Sinbad. "Will you help us in that, too? You are plainly a clever merchant-trader." Sinbad at once agreed to go with them and they left the lonely island, not sorry to leave the Old Man.

The WISE OLD OWL

Knows all the answers



The Wise Old Owl is here to answer some interesting and puzzling questions for you.



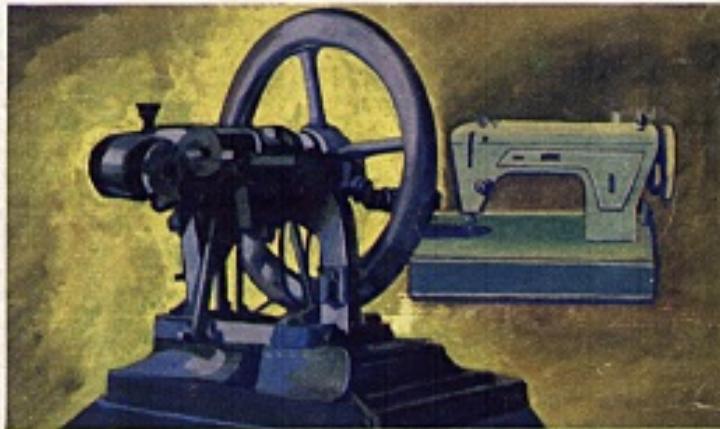
1. What is a Customs House?

"A Customs House is a building where goods from foreign countries are taken to be taxed and sold. The Customs House shown in the picture was built in the seventeenth century and stands by the side of the River Ouse in King's Lynn, Norfolk."



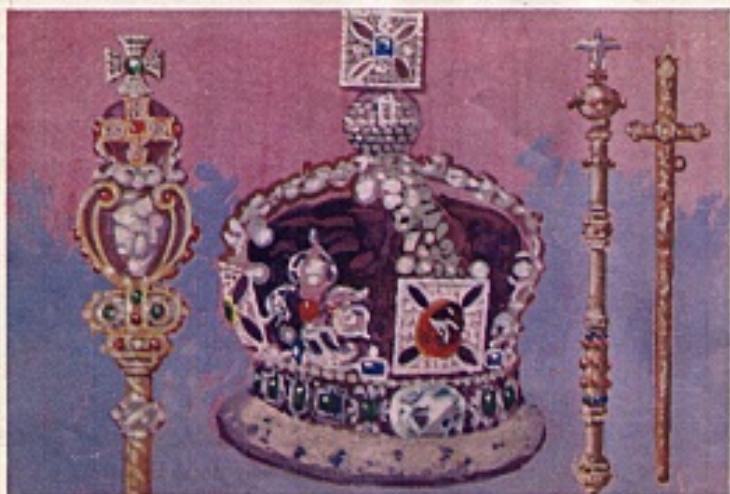
2. Where are wild raccoons to be found?

"In South America. They are cat-like animals that spend most of the daylight hours in trees, leaving them at night in search of food. These little creatures are also wonderful swimmers."



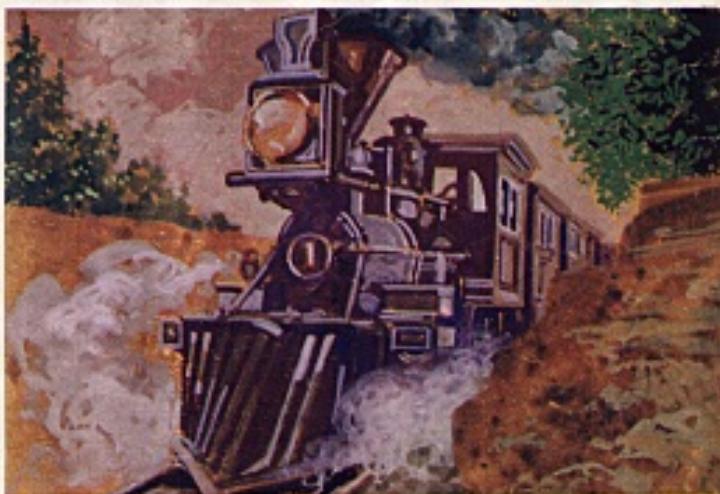
3. When was the first sewing machine built?

"We do not know the exact date, but the one shown in the picture above was designed by Elias Howe who was born in Spencer, Massachusetts, in 1819. He sold his invention in England for £400."



4. Where are the Crown Jewels kept?

"In the Tower of London. They are on view to the public and are certainly worth seeing. Two sceptres, the Imperial State Crown, and the Jewelled State Sword are shown in this picture. The Crown Jewels are used during the Crowning ceremony of a new monarch."



5. What is a cow-catcher?

"A cow-catcher is a gadget that was first attached to the front of steam engines and is shaped to a point. It is used to brush stray animals from the line, and is needed in countries where it is impossible to fence off the railway."